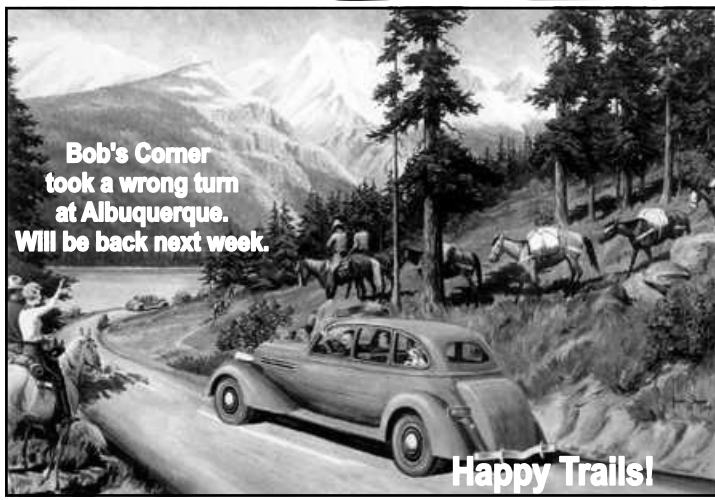


# Bob's Corner



Bob's Corner took a wrong turn at Albuquerque. Will be back next week.

Happy Trails!

## New IVSHA program to help women get on feet

The Illinois Valley Safe House Alliance's (IVSHA) efforts to provide for the immediate and long-term needs of women and children affected by domestic and sexual violence in the Illinois Valley just reached a major milestone: the launching of its Self-Sufficiency Program.

The innovative program works with woman to help them identify and overcome the barriers to finding jobs and/or opening their own businesses, and to finding adequate and affordable housing.

IVSHA Executive Director Chris Mallette explained, "two of the core reasons women either remain in an abusive relationship or return to one, are that they are unable to support themselves and their children, and they cannot find homes they can afford."

The organization formed a partnership with the Southern Oregon Women's Access to Credit (SOWAC) late last year. Since that time the two organizations have been developing a plan that brings the skills of both organizations to bear on increasing the skills of women in the valley who are interested in opening their own businesses.

As a result of that work, IVSHA and SO-WAC will offer the first of a series of workshops on entrepreneurial skills on Thursday, Sept. 4.

The workshops are open to women interested in opening their own business, and those women interested in being part of a design team to develop a business plan for IVSHA's first cottage industry.

The design team, called the Dream Team, will work with management from both organizations, IVSHA advocates, business skills trainers and other I.V. women.

The team will identify a cottage industry and write a business plan to be presented to the IVSHA Board of Directors.

Any woman interested in attending these workshops or being part of the Dream Team, phone 592-4149.

A second major milestone for the program occurred on Aug. 18, 2003, when IVSHA received notification from the Dept. of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women that the organization had been awarded a two-year grant to bring two additional advocates to the valley.

The advocates will be hired in October.

# Letters to the Editor

**(Editor's Note: Views and commentary expressed in letters to the editor are strictly those of the letter-writers. \*\*\***

**Typed, double-spaced letters are acceptable for consideration. Hand-written letters that are double-spaced and highly legible also can be considered for publication. Cards of thanks are not accepted as letters.) \*\*\***

**'Talk to kids'**  
From Steven J. Lytle  
President, Gold River  
Distribution Co.

Fall is quickly approaching, which means children across the nation will step into new classrooms, make new friends, and be faced with many new and exciting experiences.

Unfortunately, one of those experiences could involve the pressure to illegally consume alcohol. Don't wait until it is too late -- make sure your children are prepared to make the right decision to stand up to peer pressure and say "no" to illegal underage drinking.

The good news is, adolescents who break the law and consume alcohol illegally are not among the majority of their peers. Federal statistics now show that nearly 20 million teens are doing the right thing by not drinking.

According to the 2003 Roper Youth Report, the overwhelming majority of youth (69 percent of 13-17 year olds; 73 percent of 8-17 year-olds) cite their parents as the primary influence in their decisions about whether they drink alcohol or not.

What you say, or don't say, does make a difference.

Please, talk to your children about not consuming alcohol -- it may be the most important lesson they learn this school year.

**'Reduction or risk'**  
From Colette  
Terrazas  
Selma  
Don't let last year's fire season happen again.

## Marijuana bust yields 220 plants

On Monday, Aug. 25 the Josephine County Marijuana Eradication Team (JOMET) responded to 23703 Redwood Hwy. to investigate a medical marijuana growing operation.

JOMET detectives contacted the suspect, Don Johnson Jr., who provided an Oregon Medical Marijuana permit. However, it was immediately evident that Johnson had more plants than is permitted by Oregon law. Oregon law permits a medical marijuana patient to possess three mature plants and four immature plants.

Johnson consented to a search of his property, which yielded two indoor growing operation and one outdoor growing operation.

Johnson was later found to possess approximately 220 marijuana plants. He was arrested and lodged at the Josephine County Jail.



**SIGN OF THE TIMES** - Everyone can be on time now that the new Evergreen Federal Bank's time and temperature sign has been installed in Downtown Cave Junction. The sign is part of improvements being made inside and out at the bank.

(Photo by Sam Newton)

The highest priority should be to provide protection where it is needed -- in the community protection zones.

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is proposing the Anderson West Land Management Project in Selma to log 2.037 million board feet (mbf) of our last pristine old growth forest under the guise of "fire risk reduction."

It is planning to remove more than one mbf of fire resistant old-growth trees from 200 acres by helicopter while leaving more than 1,000 acres of fire-prone brush and grass untreated. BLM also doesn't have the money to even complete the project.

There is a beautiful 300-acre old-growth forest just a mile from Selma. It has the historic Lone Pine Prospect Trail wandering through a pristine forest to the mine with a grand overview of the Biscuit Fire area. It offers large, fire-resistant trees, recreational opportunities, and habitat for species displaced by the Biscuit Fire.

Please tell BLM to make protection of communities from fires its No. 1 priority, by selectively removing hazardous brush and ladder fuels in the community protection zone.

Please tell the BLM to separate fire risk reduction from the commercial logging. Thinning small trees and clearing brush around communities and homes will produce more meaningful results than logging old-growth trees.

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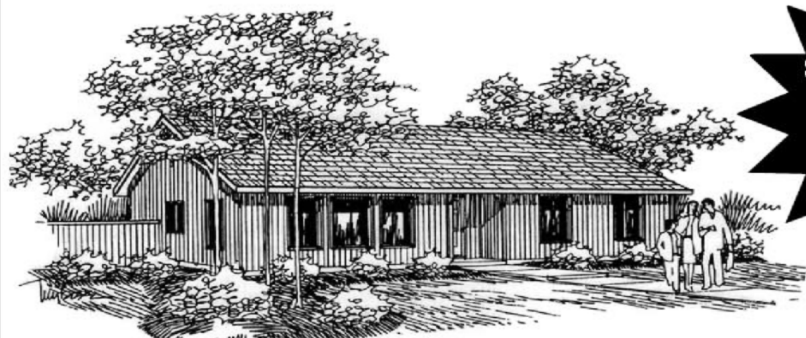
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News, Classified & Display Ads, Announcements & Letters  
**3 P.M. FRIDAY**

(Classified ads & uncomplicated display ads can be accepted until Noon, Monday with an additional charge.)

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